

Vera Wang, Fashion Designer



Success isn't about the end result: it's about what you learn along the way.

1 Most people are familiar with the name of *Vera Wang*. Her clothing line, stationary, shoes, jewelry, and home accessories can be found in stores throughout the United States. How did she become a household name? Let's find out!

2 Vera Wang was born on June 27, 1949 in New York City. As a child, Vera loved participating in sports. She started figure skating at the age of six. Quite quickly, Vera set her sights on going to the 1968 Olympics in the pairs event. When she did not make the team, Vera decided to focus on fashion.

3 Vera graduated from Sarah Lawrence College in 1971 with a degree in Art History. Her first job was working at the magazine, *Vogue*, as a temporary assistant. Vera worked hard at her job, and at the age of 23 she was promoted to Senior Fashion Editor.

4 In 1987, Vera left *Vogue* magazine and began working for the fashion designer Ralph Lauren. She was the Director of Accessories.

5 In 1989, Vera was planning her wedding. There was just one problem--she could not find a wedding dress that she liked. So she decided to sketch the dress of her dreams and hire a dressmaker to make it. Vera enjoyed this experience so much that she decided to open a store. With the help of her father, Vera opened the Vera Wang Bridal House in 1990.

6 After opening the bridal store, Vera began branching out in the fashion world. Figure skaters liked her fashion sense. Olympians Nancy Kerrigan and Michelle Kwan asked her to design their skating outfits.

7 In 2001, Vera decided to share her knowledge about weddings. She wrote a book called *Vera Wang on Weddings*. That same year, Vera also launched her own fragrance.

8 In 2006, Vera created a new clothing line called *Simply Vera*. The line was carried in Kohl's, a national department store. This line remains popular today and has expanded to shoes, purses, jewelry, and sunglasses.

9 Vera still loves sports like ice skating just as when she was a little girl. She most recently combined her love of sports and fashion by designing the cheerleading uniforms for the Philadelphia Eagles.

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1. How does paragraph 2 connect with paragraph 9?

2. In your opinion, what life event caused Vera to say, "Success isn't about the end result: it's what you learn along the way"? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

3. Summarize paragraph 5 in one sentence.

4. Read the following statement: She has combined her love of sports and fashion by designing the cheerleading uniforms for the Philadelphia Eagles. What is another example from the text that supports the fact that Vera Wang has combined her love of sports and fashion?
